

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TAGS: ETRD, EIND, GW, NATO

SUBJECT: ECONADS: STANDARDS HARMONIZATION: OPTIMUM METRIC FASTENERS

REF: USNATO 2352

1. IN MAY 7 ECONADS MEETING, FRG REP REITERATED CONCERN OF HIS AUTHORITIES (REFTEL) WITH EFFORTS OF U.S. INDUSTRY TO INTRODUCE NEW STANDARDIZED SYSTEM FOR BOLTS AND NUTS, OPTIMAL FASTENERS METRIC STANDARD(OFMS). IN RESPONSE U.S. REP MADE STATEMENT CONTAINED REFTEL ON SUBJECT. FRG REP EXPRESSED DISSATISFACTION WITH U.S. STATEMENT, COMMENTING THAT IT WAS NOT ENOUGH THAT THERE WERE "PRIVATE TALKS" BETWEEN THE PARTIES(I.E. U.S. AND EUROPEAN INDUSTRIES) AND EXPRESSING DOUBT THAT SUCH EXCHANGES WOULD PROVIDE ADEQUATE SOLUTION. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THIS WAS IMPORTANT QUESTION FOR FRG, WHICH HAD EVEN BEEN RAISED IN BUNDESTAG. RATHER THAN LEAVE MATTER TO BE DEALT WITH BY MEANS OF PRIVATE TALKS, FRG WISHED TO KNOW OFFICIAL U.S. POSITION ON QUESTION AND WHETHER USG WAS READY TO INTERVENE.

UK REP EXPRESSED CONCERN OF HMG AUTHORITIES ON MATTER AS WELL (ALTHOUGH HE NOTED PRIVATELY THAT IF THE PARTIES HAD COME TO AN ACCEPTABLE UNDERSTANDING ON MATTER IN MUNICH, AS STATED BY U.S. REP THAT SHOULD DISPOSE OF IT). BELGIAN REP MENTIONED

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HIS GOVERNMENT'S CONCERN WITH PROBLEM AND SAID THAT AT MINIMUM USG SHOULD ACCEPT NEGOTIATION WITHIN INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS ORGANIZATION (ISO); HE HOPED TO OBTAIN U.S. COMMITMENT TO DO SO. CHAIRMAN OBSERVED THAT SINCE SOME DELEGATIONS EVIDENTLY WISHED

TO PURSUE MATTER FURTHER, IT WOULD APPEAR AGAIN ON THE AGENDA.

2. U.S. REP NOTED COMMENTS OF OTHERS WHICH HE SAID HE WOULD REPORT TO HIS AUTHORITIES FOR ANY FURTHER RESPONSE THEY MIGHT WISH TO MAKE IN ECONADS, ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT KNOW THAT U.S. WOULD HAVE ANYTHING TO ADD TO THE STATEMENT ALREADY PRESENTED. CANADIAN REP CONCEDED THAT QUESTION HAD SOME RELEVANCE FOR ALLIANCE, BUT EXPRESSED HOPE THAT ECONADS WOULD NOT BECOME A REGULAR FORUM FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON SUCH MATTERS WHICH HE THOUGHT MIGHT BE BETTER ADDRESSED IN THE MILITARY AGENCY FOR STANDARDIZATION (MAS). FRG REP SAID THAT MAS WAS AWARE OF PROBLEM. HE COMMENTED THAT U.S. HAD MADE IMPORTANT MILITARY POINT OF STANDARDIZATION IN ARMAMENTS SECTOR; FRG WISHED ALSO STRESS ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS IN THIS CASE AND THUS HAD ELECTED TO UTILIZE NATO ECONOMIC FORUM AS WELL. CHAIRMAN BILLY NOTED THAT IN THE ABSENCE OF SUBMISSION OF A GOVERNMENTAL PAPER ON PARTICULAR SUBJECT, THE CONOMIC DIRECTORATE COULD ONLY REGISTER COMMENTS EXPRESSED BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS, RECOGNIZING THAT SUBJECT DID HAVE CERTAIN ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS. THUS HE WOULD LEAVE MATTER OPEN FOR DISCUSSION AT LATER DATE IF COMMITTEE MEMBERS WISHED TO COMMENT FURTHER.

3. MISSION REQUESTS GUIDANCE ON STATEMENT TO MAKE IN ECONOMIC COMMITTEE ADDRESSING QUESTION IN RELATION TO STANDARDIZATION IN NATO.
STREATOR

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